

cultivating the ground, and building houses were made at home. In the pioneer shops, and for years subsequently were forged axes, hoes, shovel plows, bull-tongues, coulters, brush hooks, seng hoes, mattocks, broad axes, frows, grubbing hoes, pot hooks and pot hangers, kettle bales, log chains, double trees, single trees, door hinges and latches, and other articles.

Toiling, rejoicing, sorrowing,  
Onward through life he goes,  
Each morning sees some task begun,  
Each evening sees its close—  
Something attempted, something done  
Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,  
For the lesson thou hast taught :  
Thus at the flaming forge of life  
Our fortunes must be wrought,  
Thus on the sounding anvil shaped  
Each burning deed and thought.

—The Village Blacksmith.

---

### WALTER DRINNON.

Among the pioneer settlers of the Edray district the Drinnons are believed to have been among the very first. From what the venerable James McCollam, a grandson of Lawrence Drinnon, remembers there were three brothers, Charles, Lawrence, and Thomas, sons of Walter Drinnon from Ireland. It is more than probable they came here about the time John McNeel

and the Kinnison brothers had made their settlement in the Levels, for they came from the same county and neighborhood.

Lawrence Drinnon settled on the Greenbrier above the mouth of Stony Creek. His wife was a member of the Day family, referred to in the Kinnison paper, but her name is not remembered. Their children were James, Charles, John, Susan, and Sally.

Susan married John Boggs, and lived for years in the Meadows of Greenbrier. Mr Boggs was engaged for a long time with Charles McClung, a noted Greenbrier grazier and stock dealer, and prospered in business. From Greenbrier he went to Putnam County, entered 16,000 acres of land, and founded the notable Boggs settlement by situating his sons and daughters around him.

Sally Drinnon became Mrs William McCollam, and lived on Bucks Mountain.

John Drinnon married his cousin Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Drinnon, the Edray pioneer, and opened up the property lately owned by Thomas Aldridge, Senior. His sons were Thomas, Lawrence, James, and John. Thomas Drinnon married Rebecca Grimes and lived in Huntersville, keeping jail and shoemaking. Finally he went to Harrison County. Two of his sons were with the Union cavalry engaged in the battle of Droop Mountain. Lawrence Drinnon married Bettie Ratliff, and moved to Roane County. James Drinnon went to Nicholas County. John Drinnon went to Clay County, and was a teacher of schools in Clay and Nicholas counties.

John Drinnon, of Lawrence, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was in camp near Norfolk. One damp day he was out on dress parade, rather too early after an attack of measles, took a relapse and died soon after.

At that time the late William Gay, Senior, was a youth living at Josiah Brown's. He had been to mill on Knapps Creek and was returning home after sundown, and it was getting dusk as he came near the place where the gate opens leading to Thomas Auldridge's present residence. The way to Browns went up the crest of the ridge on the side of which are the traces of the John Drinnon residence yet to be seen. The horse suddenly stopped, and the mill boy looked to see what it was, and there in a fence corner he saw John Drinnon, wrapped in a blanket, and seemed to be taking his rest, but before he could speak to him the horse started off at headlong speed, and he could not check him up before reaching Brown's. He told the family he had seen John Drinnon on his way home, and now they would hear news from the war. Upon going to Drinnon's however it was found that he had not come in, and when they looked for him he could not be found.

The whole matter remained a mystery until David Cochran and John R. Flemmers returned bringing the news of Drinnon's death. Upon comparing the time of his decease with the time Gay saw the apparition at the side of the road, there was a striking coincidence.

Thomas Drinnon, brother of Lawrence the pioneer, settled at Edray. After him Drinnon's Ridge is nam-

ed, and so he has a monument as enduring as the everlasting hills. He made the first opening where the village of Edray now stands and owned much of the land that comprise the attractive farm homes that present such a charming scene when viewed from the 'big turn' on the mountain road, whence is unfolded some of the most picturesque mountain scenery in our county. Near where his house stood had been a favorite camping place for Indians, and many stone relics in later years have been found in the fields thereabouts. A fine, bold spring is one of the features of the place, near William Sharp's present residence. Thomas Drinnon's home was broken up by Indians and his wife carried away prisoner and cruelly murdered on Elk Mountain, several miles from her home. The names of his sons were Jacob, William, and James.

Jacob Drinnon married Elizabeth, daughter of John Smith, on Stoney Creek, and settled in Nicholas county. William Drinnon lived in Nicholas county.

James Drinnan settled in Muskingum county, Ohio. He seems to have been deeply interested in legends concerning silver on Elk Mountain, at a locality called Hickory Ridge. It is believed he returned from Ohio and spent quite a while in efforts to identify the place, but was not able to make the find he was after.

Charles Drinnon, believed to have been a younger brother of Thomas and Lawrence was in Indian captivity for several years. When redeemed and brought home he frequently complained of it, as if he was sorry to leave his captors so attached he seemed to have become to Indian usages, manners and customs. It is

hinted too that there might have been an attractive young squaw in the question, a daughter of some tribal chief, but we will leave this for what it may be worth as a romantic confection. At any rate he seemed sick about something and he always had a good word for the Indian friends of his youth. One of the nice and pleasant things about Indian habits in his estimation was that his oid friends make their fires, took the good of them and were never in a hurry about their business of any kind. His name is perpetuated by a field now owned by Anderson Barlow. The legend is that this field was cleared by Charles Drinnon, and was probably the first opening on Hazel Ridge. It is now designated as the "Charley Field."

The compiler has recently learned from a very authentic source some particulars which he hopes the reader may notice and correct a statement elsewhere made about Mr Baker, who was killed by an Indian, being named James and a school teacher. His name was Henry Baker and he was doing a job of clearing for Lawrence Drinnon. Richard Hill was employed in raising the house a story higher and putting on a new roof. Patrick Slator was the school teacher and one of his pupils was the late Mrs Sally McCollam. Lawrence Drinnon had recently set out some apple trees he had carried from Hardy county. Early in the morning of Baker's death some one was seen among these trees and it was supposed to be Slator pulling up the weeds and grass, it turned out however to be an Indian warrior. Soon as night came after the shooting

of Baker, Nathan, a colored servant belonging to Lawrence Drinnon, was sent across the river into Marlin Mountain, crossing Knapps Creek at Leydon Bottom, then following Buckley Mountain, came to Greenbrier at Stephen Cave Run, and thence went to the fort at Millpoint, located where Isaac McNeel's residence now stands.

---

### ROBERT MOORE.

Robert Moore was a son of Moses Moore, the distinguished pioneer. He was born May 27, 1772, and was reared on Knapps Creek. His wife was Rebecca McCollam, of Brown's Mountain, near Driscoll. After living a number of years on the Greenbrier at the Bridger place, he moved to Edray on the Drennon opening. They were the parents of five sons, Isaac, Robert, Andrew, James, William, and one daughter, Jane, who became Mrs Andrew Duffield and lived at the head of Stoney Creek, now owned by the Delaney family who recently moved into our county.

Isaac Moore married Catherine Gillilan and settled at Edray where S. B. Moore lives. In their family were three sons and five daughters. Mary Ann became Mrs Amos Barlow, first wife; Rebecca became Mrs David Hannah; Elizabeth is Mrs Bryson Hannah, near Frost; Eveline became Mrs Paul Sharp; Julia is now Mrs William Sharp.

Allen Taylor Moore married Mary Catherine Gay, daughter of the late Robert Gay and Mrs Bettie Gay.